

# Senate File 2090 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2090

BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 51)

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to lighted lamps on bicycles, making penalties  
2 applicable, and including effective date provisions.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.385A, Code 2020, is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3 **321.385A Citation for unlighted headlamp, rear lamp, ~~or~~ rear**  
4 **registration plate light, or bicycle lamp.**

5 1. *a.* A citation issued for failure to have headlamps  
6 as required under [section 321.385](#) shall first provide for a  
7 ~~seventy-two-hour~~ seventy-two-hour period within which the  
8 person charged with the violation shall replace or repair the  
9 headlamp.

10 *b.* A citation issued for failure to have rear lamps as  
11 required under [section 321.387](#) or a rear registration plate  
12 light as required under [section 321.388](#) shall first provide for  
13 a ~~seventy-two-hour~~ seventy-two-hour period within which the  
14 person charged with the violation shall replace or repair the  
15 lamps or light.

16 *c.* A citation issued for failure to have a front or rear  
17 lamp on a bicycle as required under section 321.397 shall first  
18 provide for a seventy-two-hour period within which the person  
19 charged with the violation shall replace or repair the lamp.

20 2. If the person complies with the directive to replace  
21 or repair the headlamp, rear lamps, ~~or~~ rear registration  
22 plate light, or bicycle lamp within the allotted time period,  
23 the citation shall be expunged. If the person fails to  
24 comply within the allotted time period, the citation shall be  
25 processed in the same manner as other citations.

26 3. A citation issued under [this section](#) shall include  
27 a written notice of replacement or repair which shall  
28 indicate the date of replacement or repair and the manner in  
29 which the replacement or repair occurred and which shall be  
30 returned to the issuing authority within the ~~seventy-two-hour~~  
31 seventy-two-hour time period.

32 Sec. 2. Section 321.397, Code 2020, is amended to read as  
33 follows:

34 **321.397 Lamps on bicycles.**

35 Every At the times specified in section 321.384, every

1 bicycle shall be equipped with a lamp on the front exhibiting a  
2 white light, ~~at the times specified in [section 321.384](#),~~ visible  
3 from a distance of at least three hundred feet to the front and  
4 with a lamp on the rear exhibiting a red light visible from a  
5 distance of three hundred feet to the rear, ~~except that a red~~  
6 ~~reflector may be used in lieu of a rear light.~~ A peace officer  
7 riding a police bicycle is not required to use either front or  
8 rear lamps if duty so requires.

9 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect January 1,  
10 2021.

11 EXPLANATION

12 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
13 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

14 Current law requires a bicycle to have a front lighted lamp  
15 and either a rear lighted lamp or a rear reflector at any time  
16 from sunset to sunrise, and at such other times when conditions  
17 such as fog, snow, sleet, or rain provide insufficient lighting  
18 to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the  
19 highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

20 This bill requires every bicycle to have a front and rear  
21 lighted lamp during the stated periods of time, and strikes the  
22 provision allowing a bicycle to be equipped a rear reflector  
23 in lieu of the rear lighted lamp. The scheduled fine for  
24 violating this provision is \$25. However, the bill provides  
25 that a citation issued for failure to have a front lamp or  
26 rear lamp on a bicycle must first provide for a 72-hour period  
27 within which the person charged with the violation shall  
28 replace or repair the lamp. If the person complies with the  
29 directive to replace or repair the lamp, the citation must be  
30 expunged.

31 The bill takes effect January 1, 2021.